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CIA/OSR

MEMO RA 750204

4 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant NIO for the Middle East

SUBJECT : Implications of New Disengagement Lines in the Sinai

The attached map shows new disengagement lines as proposed by the NSC Staff. At your request, we have reviewed our holdings of the forces now deployed in the area; we also note the implications if the new lines are accepted by the parties.

Military Forces in the Current Disengagement AreasEgypt

In the Egyptian limited armaments zone, there are [redacted] mechanized battalions and the equivalent of one armored battalion [redacted]. The Egyptians also have at least 36 field artillery pieces [redacted]

[redacted] The total force probably consists of at least 7,000 men.

On the west bank of the Suez Canal within the 30-kilometer zone, the Egyptians have three infantry and two mechanized divisions. A fourth infantry division was in the process of moving into this area [redacted]

[redacted] This force probably totals at least 90,000 men.

Israel

The Israelis usually station only a small force in their limited armaments zone. The equivalent of one armored company and one mechanized company is currently in the area, and the total force probably numbers no more than 500 men.

In their 30-kilometer area, the Israelis have the equivalent of some eight armored battalions, one mechanized battalion, and two field artillery battalions, totaling about 6,000 men.

The Proposed Disengagement AreaEgypt

The size and composition of the Egyptian forces would be unaffected by the proposed change.

This memorandum was prepared in the Office of Strategic Research. Queries and comments may be addressed [redacted]

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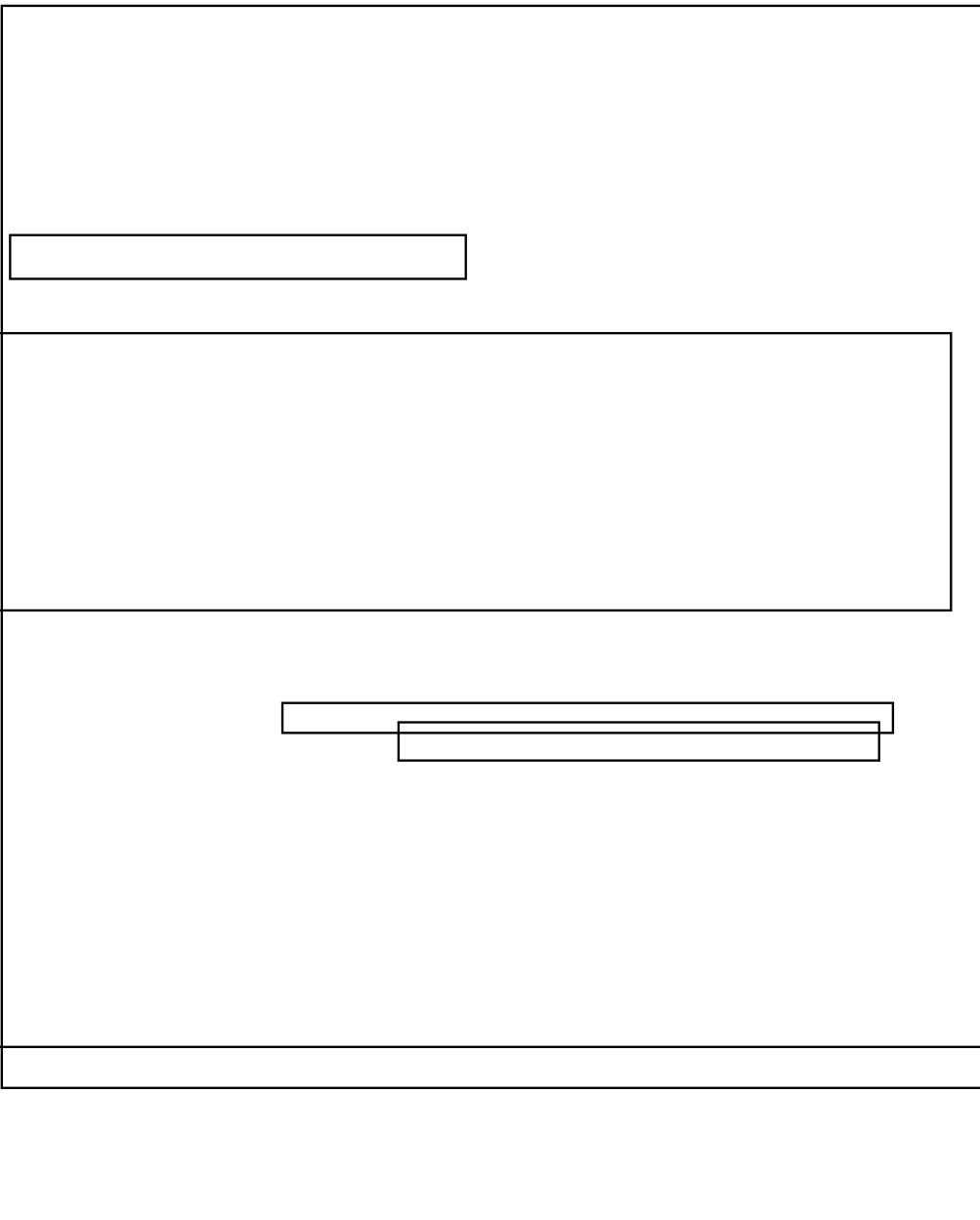
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Israel



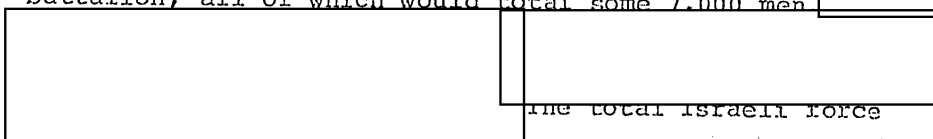
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Withdrawal

If the Israeli force currently north of new Line D and west of new Line B withdraws to the area between new Lines B and C, there would be in this new zone some eight Israeli armored battalions, nearly two mechanized battalions, three field artillery battalions, one Hawk battalion, all of which would total some 7,000 men.



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the total Israeli force

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in the new limited armaments zone would be well over the 30 tanks, 36 field artillery pieces, and 7,000 men permitted in the limited armaments zone under the current disengagement agreement.

We doubt that the Israelis would want to concentrate such a large force in this narrow a corridor. They would likely pull back most of the force to the area east of new Line C and leave only a light screening force in the new limited armaments zone. The size of this force in the new limited zone probably would be well within the limits allowed by the current disengagement agreement.

If the Israelis choose to station more men and equipment in the new limited armaments zone than permitted by the current agreement, some similar accommodation probably would have to be made for the Egyptians in their limited armaments zone.

In the area south of Line D, an Israeli withdrawal to east of new Line C would have no affect on the terms of the current disengagement agreement.

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